

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 117661
ORIGIN ARA-14

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CCA:DEHENDERSON

APPROVED BY ARA/CCA:WSSMITH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO COAST GUARD WASHDC 0164

SEVENTH CCGD MIAMI

COMLANT AREA COGARD NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 117661

FOLLOWING REPEAT HAVANA 1113 ACTION STATE APR 28.

QUOTE O N F I D E N T I A L HAVANA 1113

FOR ARA/CCA, CA/SCS, S/NM

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CGEN CASC CARR SNAR CU (DIMONE, MIKE AND GATTO, EMIL)

SUBJ: PROPOSED DEA VISIT TO GATTO AND DIMONE

REF: STATE 102774

1. SUBJECT DEA VISIT TO GATTO AND IMONE COULD BE
VERY DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE GIVEN GOC RELUCTANCE SO FAR
TO PERMIT EVEN REGULAR CONSULAR VISITS. FURTHERMORE,
EVEN IF CUBANS WILLING TO COOPERATE, SUBJECTS WOULD
OBVIOUSLY HAVE RIGHT TO REFUSE VISIT ONCE INFORMED
OF ITS PURPOSE. (AT TIME OF THEIR DETENTION, THESE
PRISONERS WERE NOT AT ALL FORTHCOMING WITH USINT CONSULAR OFFICER
ABOUT THEIR NARCOTICS INVOLVEMENT.)
IF VISIT DOES TAKE PLACE IT WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY NOT
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BE A PRIVATE ONE SINCE BOTH PRISON AUTHORITIES AND MINREX
"PROTOCOL" OFFICIALS ROUTINELY SIT IN ON ALL PRISON
VISITS BY FOREIGNERS. ANY INFORMATION GATHERED WOULD
THUS BE SHARED WITH GOC, WHICH HAS NOT DOUBT ALREADY
QUESTIONED SUBJECTS THOROUGHLY.

2. PROSPECTS FOR GOC COOPERATION WITH SUBJECT

INVESTIGATION MIGHT BE MATERIALLY IMPROVED IF WE
OFFERED TO SEND WITH DEA AGENT IN THIS CASE OTHER DEA
AND/OR DEPARTMENTAL AND COAST GUARD OFFICERS PREPARED TO
DISCUSS IN EXPLORATORY WAY THE POSSIBILITIES FOR BROADER BILATERAL
COOPERATION IN FIELD OF NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING CONTROL.
DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT THIS SUBJECT WAS RAISED
DURING COAST GUARD-BORDER GUARD TALKS IN HAVANA (HAVANA 202).
THE CUBAN WERE HIGHLY RECEPTIVE AT THE TIME, AND AN
INITIATIVE FROM US NOW MIGHT BE A TIMELY ONE. WE
UNDERSTAND THAT CUBAN INTELLIGENCE IS VERY INTERESTED IN
INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS TRAFFIC BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE HEAVY
CUBAN EXILE INVOLVEMENT. GATTO AND DIMONE SPENT ABOUT TWO
MONTHS UNDER STATE SECURITY JURISDICTION BEFORE THEY WERE
PUT INTO REGULAR PENAL SYSTEM. LANE UNQUOTE VANCE

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